REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1-11, 14-16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 have been rejected. Claims 12, 13, 17, 20 and 23 are objected to. Claims 1-23 remain in the case for reconsideration. Reconsideration is requested. No new subject matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12, 13, 17, 20 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 12, 13, 17, 20 and 23 have been rewritten in independent form and are therefore in condition for allowance.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to fix the informalities as suggested by the Examiner and are, therefore, allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 4 has been amended to over come the rejection under 35 USC 112.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Baxley et al. (US 6,646,997)

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxley et al. Claims 3, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxley et al. in view of H.225. Claim 7 is are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxley et al. ('997) in view of Baxley et al. (US 6,657,975). Claims 14, 15, 16, 18 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxley et al. ('997) in view of Gourraud (US 6,711,156).

The rejections under 35 USC 102(e) and 35 USC 103(a) are respectfully traversed. The Examiner states that Baxley et al. (US 6,646,997) discloses a connection that provides supplemental services messaging between a gatekeeper and an intelligent peripheral in accordance with a protocol. The Examiner further states that the protocol enables the gatekeeper to selectively insert one or more messages to the intelligent peripheral and to selective intercept one or more message from the intelligent peripheral as specified in claims 1-23.

There is no suggestion in Baxley of providing supplemental services messaging between a gatekeeper and an intelligent peripheral. There is also no suggestion in Baxley of enabling the gatekeeper to selectively insert one or more messages to the intelligent peripheral and to selectively intercept one or more message from the intelligent peripheral as specified in claims 1-23.

The Examiner cites col. 8, lines 33-40. The relevant portion of lines 33-40 in Baxley states: "Again, the conference gatekeeper 150 requests 370 routing information from the CACS 170 and is provided 375 with routing information to an IVR server for obtaining additional information from the endpoint 120 (E2) steps 210, 220, 230, 237)." (col. 8, lines 36-40).

The Examiner is misreading the statement. The gatekeeper 150 requests routing information from the CACS 170 for the IVR server 180. The IVR server routing information is forwarded to the endpoint so that the IVR 180 can obtain additional information from the endpoint. This is confirmed in FIG. 2 steps 210, 220, 230, and 237 that are referred to at col. 8, lines 39-40. There is no suggestion in the description of FIG. 2 of the gatekeeper inserting or intercepting any type of supplemental services messaging from the IVR.

With reference to FIG. 2, the specification in Baxley states: "In step 260, the CACS 170 then returns (e.g. via 156) routing information to the conference gatekeeper 150 and the conference gatekeeper 150 responds ... to the endpoint 120 with a convention location found signal (LCF) indicating the selected MCU 160 to host the audio conference Col. 6, lines 35-40.

Col. 8, lines 36-40 generally refer to FIG. 4 when describing how the IVR obtains additional information from an endpoint. There are no messages or signaling in FIG. 4 sent from the conference gatekeeper 150 to the IVR 180 and no messages or signaling sent from the IVR 180 to the conference gatekeeper 150. There are only messages sent between the gatekeeper 150 and the CACS 170 as mentioned in Col. 8, lines 33-40. (See FIG. 4)

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This is further supported in the next sentences at col. 8, lines 40-45 of Baxley where the LCF is transmitted to the endpoint 120 and a call is established between the endpoint and the IVR server 180 so that the IVR server can gather "the additional information" from the endpoint 120 (col. 8, lines 40-44).
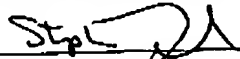
The gatekeepers 150 and 145 in Baxley are only used for obtaining address information used for routing a call. This is further described in the specification at col. 4, line 52 --col. 5, line 14 that explains that the gatekeepers 140 and 150 only perform address translation, manage bandwidth and provide routing instructions.

The gatekeepers in Baxley do not provide supplemental services messaging between a gateway and an intelligent peripheral and do not selectively insert one or more messages to the intelligent peripheral and selectively intercept one or more message from the intelligent peripheral as specified in claims 1 and 8.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-23 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile no. (703) 872-9306 addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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